



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

October 13, 1999

A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide that certain environmental reports shall continue to be required to be submitted

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on September 29, 1999*

This bill would require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to continue to collect biennial water quality inventory reports from the states and provide them to the Congress, and also to conduct a biennial survey of the local needs for funding from clean water state revolving loan funds and to report the results to the Congress. The requirement to prepare these reports would otherwise end on December 21, 1999. Based on information from EPA, CBO estimates that continuing to produce these reports for the Congress would cost the federal government about \$2 million annually, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Because enactment of this bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

The bill contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. It would extend reporting requirements for states that are conditions of aid or part of states' voluntary participation in Clean Water Act programs. CBO estimates that any resulting costs would be minimal.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Susanne S. Mehlman (for federal costs), and Shelley Finlayson (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.